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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,623	01/22/2001	Hiroyuki Kaneko	1095.1152/JDH	8796
21171	7590	11/14/2005	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP			NGUYEN, QUANG N	
SUITE 700			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.				
WASHINGTON, DC 20005			2141	

DATE MAILED: 11/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/765,623	KANEKO, HIROYUKI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Quang N. Nguyen	2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 26 January 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

Detailed Action

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/19/2005 has been entered.

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Claims 1-6 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurosawa et al. (US 6,047,288), herein after referred as Kurosawa, in view of Fisher et al. (US 6,212,511), hereinafter referred as Fisher.**

4. As to claim 1, Kurosawa teaches a system and method of group environment specifying and setting, comprising:

group specifying means for specifying, in the case of a predetermined user having logged in using a user ID and password (*inherently, in order to access a group objects, a user/initiator sends a request to a server, i.e., to log in a server using a user ID and password*), a group to which the user belongs (*group list 601a stores a group name and members of the group*) (Kurosawa, Fig. 20, C12: L30-34 and C24: L35-42);

using environment specifying means for specifying a using environment corresponding to the group specified by the group specifying means (*the environment setting information of a designated group is derived from the database*) (Kurosawa, C13: L35-54);

using environment setting means for setting an environment which conforms to the using environment specified by the using environment specifying means (*the environment setting information is derived and sent to the terminal to apply the environment setting*) (Kurosawa, C14:L55 - C15:L16); and

creating databases according to groups (as illustrated in Figs. 20-21).

However, Kurosawa does not explicitly teach designating one of the databases, which an application program uses; and providing the request to the application program according to the user ID and password included in a packet of the request.

In a related art, Fisher teaches an access control database defines access rights through the use of access control objects, wherein the database management system (DBMS) 280 of Fig. 9 stores tables of information and has an access privileges module

284 which configures/establishes access rights to each of the tables in the DBMS, wherein the access privileges may have an access privileges table that stores access right information indicating which users have access to the tables that make up the event log 282 (Fisher, C16: L22-32). Fisher also teaches a management information server (MIS) 150 receives all management object access requests 120 (wherein each access request 120 is a data structure or object containing a set of predefined fields, including user information, such as user ID/name and/or password, identifying the request initiator) and distributes each request to an appropriate auxiliary server 152 in accordance with the portion of the management object tree referenced by the request (i.e., providing the request to the application program according to the identity of the user/group) (Fisher, C5: L18-47 and C6: L34-43).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kurosawa and Fisher to designate one of the created databases, which an application program uses and providing the request to the application program according to the user ID and password included in a packet of the request because it would allow the system to define, create, and register the management information objects with the event registry to indicate a list of authorized/registered users/groups with access rights to the registered list of management information objects to prevent unauthorized persons from accessing the management information objects in a network in order to avoid confidential information be obtained by unauthorized persons and to avoid the network be open to acts of sabotage (Fisher, C1: L61-67).

5. As to claim 2, Kurosawa-Fisher teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the group comprises one or more users (Kurosawa, Fig. 20).

6. As to claim 3, Kurosawa-Fisher teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the database are divided physically or logically according to groups, and the using environment setting means sets one of the databases corresponding to the groups specified by the group specifying means (*i.e., defining and initializing a corresponding set of DBMS tables 282, i.e., an event log, for storing the requested event notifications, one distinct DBMS table per distinct event notification type*) (Fisher, C17: L12-16).

7. As to claim 4, Kurosawa-Fisher teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the group specifying means comprises a table which associates user information regarding each user with the group to which each user belongs and specifies the appropriate group by referring to the user information (*i.e., the access privileges module 284 may have an access privileges table that stores access rights information indicating which users have access to which tables that make up the event logs 282*), which the user entered when the user logged in (*i.e., contained in each access request 120*), and the table (Fisher, C5: L18-31, C9: L35-62 and C16: 1-22-32).

8. As to claim 5, Kurosawa-Fisher teaches the system of claim 1, further comprising processing means (*an Access Control Decision Function "ACDF" of the MIS 950 is the*

procedure or a set of procedures that apply the access control rules to each access request so as to determine whether to grant or deny the request) for performing a process corresponding to a request from the user, wherein the processing means performs a process in the environment for each group set by the using environment setting means (the MIS 150 receives all management object access requests 120, and distributes each request, or portions of the request to a set of auxiliary servers 152 in accordance with the portion of the management object tree referenced by the request)
(Fisher, C5: L3-7, C6: L34-43 and C8: L33-49).

9. Claim 6 is a corresponding computer-readable record medium claim of system claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale.

10. Applicant's arguments as well as request for reconsideration filed on 10/19/2005 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

11. A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire THREE (3) months from the mailing date of this communication. See 37 CFR 1.134.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's SPE, Rupal Dharia, can be reached at (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER